

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of preparing information usable in theft detection using radio frequency
2 identification (“RFID”) technology, comprising steps of:
3 reading a customer identifier from a customer loyalty card; and
4 storing the customer identifier in an RFID tag affixed to each of one or more items
5 presented for purchase in a current transaction.

1 2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the customer identifier is read from an RFID
2 tag affixed to the customer loyalty card.

1 3. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 concluding that at least some of one or more items possessed by a shopper were not paid
3 for in the current transaction if the customer identifier is not present in an RFID tag affixed to
4 each such item.

1 4. A method of detecting potential theft using radio frequency identification (“RFID”)
2 technology, comprising steps of:
3 reading, from a customer loyalty card, a customer identifier; and
4 concluding that at least some of one or more items possessed by a shopper were not paid
5 for if the customer identifier is not present in an RFID tag affixed to each such item.

1 5. The method according to Claim 4, wherein the customer identifier is read from an RFID

2 tag affixed to the customer loyalty card.

1 6. The method according to Claim 4, further comprising the step of storing the customer
2 identifier in the RFID tag affixed to each of one or more items, when the items were presented for
3 purchase prior to operation of the concluding step.

1 7. The method according to Claim 4, further comprising the step of remembering each item
2 that was in the shopper's possession when the shopper entered an establishment in which a
3 transaction represented by the receipt was conducted, and wherein the searching and concluding
4 steps do not apply to the remembered items.

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6 7. A system for preparing information usable in theft detection using radio frequency
7 identification ("RFID") technology, comprising:
8 means for reading a customer identifier from a customer loyalty card; and
9 means for storing the customer identifier in an RFID tag affixed to each of one or more
10 items presented for purchase in a current transaction.

1 8. The system according to Claim 7, wherein the customer identifier is read from an RFID
2 tag affixed to the customer loyalty card.

1 9. The system according to Claim 7, further comprising:
2 means for concluding that at least some of one or more items possessed by a shopper were

3 not paid for in the current transaction if the customer identifier is not present in an RFID tag
4 affixed to each such item.

1 9. The system according to Claim 7, further comprising:

2 means for concluding that at least some of one or more items possessed by a shopper were
3 not paid for in the current transaction if the customer identifier is not present in an RFID tag
4 affixed to each such item.

1 10. A system for detecting potential theft using radio frequency identification ("RFID")
2 technology, comprising:

3 means for reading, from a customer loyalty card, a customer identifier; and
4 means for concluding that at least some of one or more items possessed by a shopper were
5 not paid for if the customer identifier is not present in an RFID tag affixed to each such item.

1 11. The system according to Claim 10, wherein the customer identifier is read from an RFID
2 tag affixed to the customer loyalty card.

1 12. The system according to Claim 10, further comprising means for storing the customer
2 identifier in the RFID tag affixed to each of one or more items, when the items were presented for
3 purchase prior to operation of the means for concluding.

1 13. A computer program product for preparing information usable in theft detection using

2 radio frequency identification (“RFID”) technology, the computer program product embodied on
3 one or more computer-readable media and comprising:

4 computer-readable program code means for reading a customer identifier from a customer
5 loyalty card; and

6 computer-readable program code means for storing the customer identifier in an RFID tag
7 affixed to each of one or more items presented for purchase in a current transaction.

1 14. The computer program product according to Claim 13, wherein the customer identifier is
2 read from an RFID tag affixed to the customer loyalty card.

1 15. The computer program product according to Claim 13, further comprising:

2 computer-readable program code means for concluding that at least some of one or more
3 items possessed by a shopper were not paid for in the current transaction if the customer identifier
4 is not present in an RFID tag affixed to each such item.

1 16. A computer program product for detecting potential theft using radio frequency
2 identification (“RFID”) technology, the computer program product embodied on one or more
3 computer-readable media and comprising:

4 computer-readable program code means for reading, from a customer loyalty card, a
5 customer identifier; and

6 computer-readable program code means for concluding that at least some of one or more
7 items possessed by a shopper were not paid for if the customer identifier is not present in an RFID

8 tag affixed to each such item.

1 17. The computer program product according to Claim 16, wherein the customer identifier is
2 read from an RFID tag affixed to the customer loyalty card.

1 18. The computer program product according to Claim 16, further comprising computer-
2 readable program code means for storing the customer identifier in the RFID tag affixed to each
3 of one or more items, when the items were presented for purchase prior to operation of the
4 computer-readable program code means for concluding.

1 19. A customer loyalty card bearing identifying information about a customer, wherein the
2 card is augmented with a radio-frequency identification ("RFID") tag in which the identifying
3 information is stored, thereby enabling the identifying information to be read from the card with
4 an RFID reader device.